

**A PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE ON
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION**



**Testimony of
Lucinda Babers, Director
Department of Motor Vehicles**

**Before the
Committee on the Environment,
Public Works and Transportation
Mary M. Cheh, Chairperson**

September 27, 2011
10:30 AM
Room 412
John A. Wilson Building
Washington, DC

Good Afternoon, Chairperson Cheh, members of the Committee and Council, and your staffs. My name is Lucinda Babers, and I am the Director of the District's Department of Motor Vehicles. Today I am here to share information related to DMV's interaction with the District's Taxicab Commission. I will only provide brief, introductory information in my testimony and engage in discussion based on your particular points of interest.

Currently, DMV inspects, titles and registers 7,009 for hire vehicles which operate in the District. We also issue DCTC licenses to an additional 144 vehicles which operate in the District with out-of-state tags.

The inspection of DCTC's Title 31 vehicle requirements are done on behalf of the Taxicab Commission. These inspections, which are highly subjective for items such as dirty engine and dirty trunk, are conducted twice a year with the emission and safety inspections. Based on CY2010 data, on average, DMV conducts over 27,000 for hire inspections per year with approximately 57% failure rate on the first inspection.

The DCTC license previously mentioned is also issued by DMV on behalf of the Taxicab Commission. This license, which is currently \$75 per year, is issued to all for hire vehicles operating in the District. It must be stressed this license, which is issued to the vehicle, is different from the license issued to the driver by the Taxicab Commission.

DMV's final interaction with the District's for hire community is related to the ticket adjudication process. Currently, DMV adjudicates the Title 31 tickets issued by the hack inspectors. In FY10, 12,344 citations were issued, 2,870 (23%) were

adjudicated and 1,598 (56% of the contested amount) were dismissed. DMV is working with the Office of Administrative Hearings to transfer this adjudication function.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify today and look forward to answering any questions you may have. Thank You!

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